

CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) A method for performing file management upon a group of entertainment media files, comprising:

processing an input speech utterance to extract first information about said group of entertainment media files;

maintaining a user data store containing data about a user's prior use of said group of entertainment media files;

based on said first information, extracting second information from the user data store;

using said first and second information to identify at least one specific file from said group of entertainment media files;

performing a management operation upon said specific file.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 further comprising:

maintaining a program data store containing metadata about said group of entertainment media files;

based on said first information, extracting third information from said program data store; and

using said third information along with said first and second information to identify at least one specific file from said group of entertainment media files.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said metadata is based on information selected from the group consisting of program title, program genre category, network, date, time, actors, directors and combinations thereof.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said user data store contains data about a user's prior use selected from the group consisting of date viewed, time viewed, indexes recorded, and combinations thereof.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said program data store is populated at least in part using electronic program guide data.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said program data store is populated with data obtained from a broadcast source of entertainment media.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said program data store is populated with data obtained from a network source of entertainment media.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein said broadcast source is a cable or satellite source.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein said network source is the internet.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said step of processing an input speech utterance is performed using a speech recognizer and a natural language parser.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said step of processing an input speech utterance includes using a dialog system to prompt a user to supply an utterance that contains said first information.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said step of processing an input speech utterance includes using a dialog system to prompt a user to supply an utterance that expands upon said first information.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said management operation is a media file retrieval operation.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said management operation is a media file storage operation.